

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) hosted the annual Applicants' Workshop for the statewide Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) competition in Macon December 7-9, 2011. The CDBG program promotes community revitalization throughout the country and is administered in Georgia by DCA's Community Development and Finance Division. CDBG is a flexible tool designed to give governments a chance to address local needs and priorities related to neighborhood revitalization, economic development, infrastructure, and improved community facilities and services that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Activities that can be funded with CDBG dollars include: acquisition; construction of public works and facilities; relocation assistance; rehabilitation or demolition of housing; and a wide range of other community development activities. Last year, DCA awarded \$33 million to 70 local government projects.

The workshop sessions were presented by DCA staff on topics including: Compliance, Economic Development, Revitalization Area Strategies, Public Facilities, and Redevelopment Opportunities. Information from the workshop will be available on DCA's website: <http://www.dca.state.ga.us/communities/CDBG/index.asp>.

Applications for 2012 are due **April 2**, and DCA recommends that grant seekers get started as early as possible in order to prepare a competitive application. The Coastal Regional Commission is available to assist you in preparing your application. For more information, please contact Sarah Yednock, Grant Specialist at 912-262-2875 or via email at syednock@crc.ga.gov.

*Serving the Cities and Counties of Coastal Georgia
Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long,
McIntosh and Screven*



127 F Street
Brunswick, GA 31520

Next CRC Council Meeting:

**February 8, 2012
10:00 AM
Richmond Hill
City Center**

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CRC assisted the County and contractors in identifying the types of bike facilities appropriate for the Colerain Road corridor.

For more information about bike and pedestrian programs contact the CRC's transportation planner, Ron Sadowski at rsadowski@crc.ga.gov.

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The CRC Receives a Surprise Visit

During the end of December, the CRC was surprised by a visit from the first executive director of the



L to r: Allen Burns, CRC Executive Director;
David Maney, First CAPDC Executive Director

Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission (CAPDC). Mr. David Maney served as Executive Director of the organization from 1966-1970. Mr. Maney also served as President of the Georgia Regional Executive Directors Association and was a charter member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Mr. Maney was appointed Regional Director for Economic Development for the Southeast United States in 1972 by President Nixon and kept the post through the Ford, Carter and Reagan Administrations. He was reappointed in 1989 by President Bush; however, family illness prompted him to resign and move back to Augusta to be closer to family.

"At 83 years young, Mr. Maney is still going strong and it was indeed a pleasure to meet him", commented CRC Executive Director Allen Burns.

**CRC Council Member Clarence Knight Elected
Chairman of Georgia Association of Regional Councils**

At their November meeting, the GARC Board elected Clarence Knight to serve as their Chairman for the next two years. Mr. Knight has served as the RDC/CRC's representative to the GARDC/GARC for the past six years. Mr. Tom McMichael, Middle Georgia Regional Commission Representative was elected Vice Chairman.



(L-R) Jack Powell (SWGRC) receives a plaque recognizing his service as Chairman of the Board of the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions. The award is presented by incoming Chairman Clarence Knight (CGRC).

The purpose of the GARC is to advance the efforts of Georgia's twelve Regional Commissions (RCs) as efficient and effective service provision organizations for local governments and related state and federal programs in the areas of planning, economic development, transportation, information technology and human services.

The Association exists to promote the regional efforts of the twelve Regional Commissions in Georgia. Per the Bylaws of the GARC, some of the stated purposes of the Association are as follows:

- To assist the RCs in strengthening their capabilities to server their local governments.
- To provide a forum for the regular exchange of information and ideas among RCs to enhance the concept of regional planning and development.
- To reflect the interests of the citizens in each region of Georgia through coordinated and comprehensive planning efforts in the areas of land use, environment, transportation and historic preservation.
- To foster the implementation of joint local, state and federal programs that advance the goals of the RCs and their respective service areas.

"We are very pleased that Clarence was elected to this position. Clarence has been very active with the GARDC/GARC and served as Vice Chairman for the past four years."

Allen Burns,
CRC Executive Director

CRC Staff Make Holidays Bright



December 19-22, CRC staff members worked together and identified about one hundred seniors on the waiting list for home-delivered meals and other services in Glynn County and presented them with holiday baskets. Staff members not only donated food items but also gave about \$600 in order to purchase more food items and other necessities.

Staff Announcements >>>

New Aging Services Director

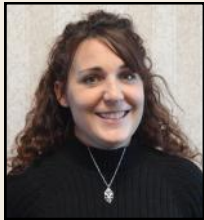
The CRC is proud to announce the promotion of Dionne Lovett to Aging Services Director. Dionne has been with the agency for over four years and previously served as the CRC Aging Fiscal Analyst and Senior Accountant / Human Resources Specialist.



Aging Services Staff Additions



Chera Ragan, Case Manager — Chera joined the AAA staff in November 2011 as a Case Manager working with the Home and Community Based Programs (HCBS) and AfterCare Programs. Chera graduated with a degree in Social Work and Gerontology from Weber State University in 2000. Her experience includes working as a Social Worker and a Case Manager in the field of Gerontology for an Area Agency on Aging in Utah, as well as in the field of Developmental Disabilities. Most recently, she worked in Colorado with the Department of Human Services in Child and Family Services. She worked with children and adults with Developmental Disabilities and Mental Illness. Ms. Fuller moved from Colorado to Georgia in October 2011.



Deborah Scariano, Volunteer Services Manager – Debbie joined the AAA staff on December 28th as the Volunteer Services Manager. Debbie graduated with a master’s in public health administration in 2002 from Benedictine University and received her undergraduate in Nutrition at Southern Illinois University in 1997. Her experience includes coordination of the Senior Nutrition program, Title IIID Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, along with obtaining her master training certificates for Matter of Balance, Chronic Disease Self-Management and Diabetes Self-Management. She has built successful volunteer teams in the northeastern suburbs for public health and Older Americans Act programs and plans to continue that success in the coastal region.



Candice Holloway, Gateway Specialist— Candice is the newest addition to the AAA Gateway staff starting in November 2011 She has a Master of Arts degree in Gerontology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She interned at assisted living facilities and nursing homes where she gained experience working with Alzheimer’s, Bi-Polar Disorder, and Dementia clients.

Congratulations!!

AAA staff members receive TCARE Certification



Pictured l to r: Audrey Massey, Gateway Specialist; Jennifer Meshanko, Case Manager Supervisor; Brenda Butler, Gateway Specialist; Beverly Waid, Gateway Specialist

Working Together >>>

Georgia AmeriCorps Grant Competition Announced



The Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism (GCSV) will host a series of public meetings throughout the state in January and February to explain the 2012 AmeriCorps*State grant competition.

The meetings, which will be open to the general public, will be held in Atlanta, Macon, Jefferson, Statesboro and Tifton, and will feature in-depth presentations about AmeriCorps programs, the 2012 grant application process and how the grant winners are selected.

The first meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24th in Statesboro from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Sea Island Bank – Main Branch, 2 East Main Street, Team Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Statesboro, Georgia, followed by meetings in Macon, Tifton, Atlanta and Jefferson. The complete schedule of meeting dates, locations and times can be found below and on the GCSV website at www.americorpsga.org.

AmeriCorps grants are awarded on a competitive basis, which means organizations must create and submit detailed applications that include comprehensive program designs, performance goals and budgets. The applications are scored by panels of experts and grants are awarded in June by the GCSV board. Eligible organizations include nonprofits, local governments and state agencies, faith-based groups, institutions of higher learning and schools.

For Georgia AmeriCorps*State applicants, the first step in the application process will be the submission of a brief concept paper that is due to GCSV by March 2, 2012. The GCSV staff will screen the concept papers for eligibility and basic content and then invite qualified applicants to submit a full AmeriCorps application.

AmeriCorps State & National provides grants to a broad network of public and nonprofit organizations that sponsor AmeriCorps service programs around the country, including hundreds of faith and community based organizations, Indian Tribes, institutions of higher education, and public agencies. The grants, which are funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, provide assistance to programs to recruit, train and supervise AmeriCorps members who will meet critical community needs in the areas of education, disaster services, health, environmental stewardship, economic opportunity and service to veterans and military families.

Deadlines, the concept paper form, application instructions and other information about AmeriCorps grants in Georgia are available at the GCSV website, www.americorpsga.org. GCSV is an office of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

CRC Assisting Local Governments with Bike and Pedestrian Improvements

The CRC is actively working with Camden County and its Cities to identify solutions to existing bike and pedestrian issues to help create more livable communities.

In Kingsland, the CRC is working to develop an alternative multi-use path to connect Howard Peoples Park to the City of St Marys. The CRC staff met with Kingsland City Staff, bike advocates, and Florida Department of Transportation for a site visit of the US 17 Bridge over the St. Marys River. A discussion and consensus on short- and long-range goals were identified. These goals were identified to promote safety and usability for cyclist and walks.

In the City of St Marys, the CRC is working with City staff to provide grant administration to improve the walk-ability of the St Marys waterfront and allow more dock access to the public.

In the City of Woodbine, the CRC assisted the City in developing a grant application to provide more trail amenities along the newest section of the City’s multi-use trail. The CRC also assisted Woodbine in securing a bridge engineer to identify possibilities for providing safe bike and pedestrian access to the north side of the Satilla River.

In the unincorporated parts of Camden County, CRC staff is working with local pedestrian and bicycle advocates to extend the County owned rail-trail to connect with Woodbine owned property. The



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